



# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** Thursday, May 4, 2006 -- 06-023

**District:** District 2 - Redding

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Caltrans and Shasta College Team Up**

**REDDING** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Shasta College in Redding have teamed up to improve a storage area off Interstate 5 (I-5) at the Lake Blvd. exit in Redding. The project will provide visual enhancement and improve the site's ability to prevent stream pollution. The project will also give the Shasta College students hands-on experience with operating heavy equipment.

Jeff Cummings, Shasta College Project Manager, approached Caltrans with a proposal to team up in training the students. Through a cooperative effort, Caltrans and Shasta College are providing practical hands-on experience for the Equipment Operations and Maintenance Certificate Program and Watershed Restoration class. The students are constructing a five-foot high dirt berm that will provide a visual barrier for the Caltrans storage area from the travelers on I-5. They will also be working to improve devices used for compliance with storm water regulations.

The team effort is proving to be a positive experience for both the college and Caltrans. "The college has demonstrated a high level of professionalism in their approach to the work," said Bob Sheffield, Caltrans Contract Manager. "The instructors and students performed as if this were an actual. The students are leaving with the technical skills needed for using equipment in a team or job effort."

Students will continue work this Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. This will be the last day for this project. For more information on the current project, please call Bob Sheffield at 225-3328.

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**NOTE: An electronic version of this news release is available on the internet at the following web address:** [http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news\\_releases.htm](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news_releases.htm)